



King County

Sound Tips

10 Steps to Help Save The Sound



This information is available in alternative formats.
Call 206-296-6500 or 711 (TTY Relay).

www.dnr.metrokc.gov/soundtips



King County



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July 2007 File Name: 0705TenStepsSOUND.indd sk © 1202M

King County is working tirelessly to safeguard Puget Sound and the environment, protect human health and enrich the region's quality of life. The county is a member of the Puget Sound Partnership, (www.pugetsoundpartnership.org), which is beginning work on a 15-year plan to protect and restore the Sound ecosystem.

Check out the Sound Tips inside to see how you can make a difference.

10 Things You Can Do To Protect Puget Sound



1. Practice natural yard care

By working with, rather than against, nature in your yard, you can have a great looking landscape that's easier to care for, and healthier for families, pets, wildlife and our great Puget Sound. Visit King County's Yard Talk Web site at www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/pi/yardtalk to learn about Yard Talk, an award winning natural gardening television program airing on King County Television (KCTV).



2. Careful what you flush

What you flush makes its way to the Sound. The toilet is not a garbage can. Certain things belong in a landfill. www.dnr.metrokc.gov/WTD/community/trashcan



3. Maintain your septic system

Not on a public sewer system? That means the water used to clean your clothes, teeth and dishes is going into an on site septic system and will eventually enter a drain field on your property and possibly leach into the Sound. www.metrokc.gov/health/wastewater



4. Save water for fish

Conserving water ensures that necessary supplies are available year round to meet the needs of the people, farms, fish and businesses of King County. www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/waterconservation



Bert the Salmon



5. Put household hazardous waste in its place

Protect people, fish and our Puget Sound. Keep harmful chemicals out of waterways and groundwater. www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/disposal/othersites



6. Keep suds and grime out of storm drains

Any soap, even biodegradable, kills fish. Wash your car on the lawn and let Mother Nature clean it. Or take it to a car washing facility where the soap and toxins are removed from the car wash water and then piped to a treatment facility. www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/pi/carwash.htm



7. Practice good vehicle maintenance

Oil, grease and metals from vehicles pollute air and water. Drive less. Get vehicle emissions checked and repaired. Buy a low emission vehicle. Fix oil leaks in your car. Also, recycle used motor oil. www.metrokc.gov/health/hazard/solidwaste.htm#motor



8. Restore habitat

Help restore stream and wetland buffer habitats for fish and wildlife and improve water quality. Volunteer opportunities abound. www.dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/PI/calendar.htm



9. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Every day, King County residents and businesses run across unwanted items that make them wonder: "What do I do with?" King County's Solid Waste Division offers a Web site for businesses and residents that lists recycling, reuse and proper disposal options for 98 categories of items, from propane tanks to paint to packing peanuts. www.metrokc.gov/dnpr/swd/wdidw



10. Become an EcoConsumer

King County's EcoConsumer program (www.KCecoconsumer.com) offers resources to help balance consuming and conserving. For example, prevent waste and cut down on clutter at home by reducing junk mail. www.metrokc.gov/dnpr/swd/wasteprevention/junkmail.asp